



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Contact: Rep. Angie Sapik
608-237-9173

Wisconsin Invests in Northwestern Wisconsin to Empower Families, Enhance Education, and Develop Infrastructure

Madison, WI – Today, Rep Angie Sapik (R- Lake Nebagamon) voted for budget that supports Northwestern Wisconsin families and residents. This legislation which addresses challenges head-on, including childcare affordability, education, and infrastructure development. With a robust budget of \$93 million dedicated solely to childcare initiatives, Rep Sapik's plan demonstrates her unwavering commitment to supporting families and childcare professionals.

SB 70 addresses the importance of accessible and affordable child care for hardworking families; this budget provides a multi-faceted approach, allocating \$93 million to assist families in affording child care, enhancing provider capacity, and promoting recruitment and retention of highly skilled child care professionals. This significant investment will alleviate financial stress for families and elevate the quality of childcare services across our community.

There are substantial investments in Northwestern Wisconsin. This budget invests \$2.5 million to fund facility upgrades and development at the Les Voight and Brule State Fish Hatcheries. Additionally, \$2.16 million is set aside for maintenance and development initiatives at the Amnicon Falls and Pattison State Parks, reflecting Rep Sapik's unwavering dedication to preserving our cherished natural spaces for future generations.

Rep Sapik fought for \$400 million to reconstruct the Blatnik Bridge, strategically connecting Superior, WI, and Duluth, MN. This substantial investment will not only enhance transportation efficiency but also foster economic growth in the region, bolstering the safety and convenience of commuters.

Education remains a top priority, and to ensure every student receives the attention and resources they need, she proposes an impressive increase of nearly \$100 million for special education aids. This funding will substantially support districts, covering one-third of the costs associated with special education and



Madison Office:
Room 16 West
State Capitol
PO Box 8953
Madison, WI 53708



Rep.Sapik@legis.wisconsin.gov



(608) 237-9173
(888) 534-0073



aiding in recruiting dedicated professionals. This budget includes a per-pupil increase of \$325 yearly for the biennium. This invaluable increase allows schools to allocate resources where they are most needed and ensure our students have access to top-tier education. The state will provide Two-thirds of this funding, with the potential for local districts to contribute the remaining amount.

"Through this transformative budget, we are driving forward with confidence and determination, building a more prosperous and equitable future for our community," said Rep Angie Sapik. "By investing in child care, education, and infrastructure, we empower families, enhance our natural resources, and pave the way for remarkable economic growth. I am thrilled to present a budget reflecting our shared values and propels us towards an even brighter future."

The state Assembly and Senate have passed SB 70 and will now go to Governor Evers's desk, where he will review and consider vetoes or signing this historic legislation.



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